

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 3691

USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USBERLIN IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY BERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 17008

EXDIS

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, NATO , WB, GW, US, UK, FR

SUBJECT: CANCELLATION OF SYGLUNS VISIT TO BERLIN

REFS: (A) NATO 5645; (B) NATO 5541; (C) BONN 16659

1. WE ARE SURPRISED AND TROUBLED BY REPORT OF WHAT KRAPF TOLD LUNS. WE HAD NO INFORMATION THAT FRG INTENDED TO TAKE THIS LINE. WE WILL ASK GERMANS FOR EXPLANATION AT BONN GROUP MEETING WHICH HAD BEEN SCHEDULED ON OTHER TOPICS FOR NOON TODAY (OCT. 17).

2. LAST BONN GROUP DISCUSSION OF NATO VISIT WAS ON OCT. 15. UK (ON PRELIMINARY BASIS SINCE FORMAL INSTRUCTIONS NOT YET RECEIVED BY UK EMBASSY) AND US REPS THEN TOOK CLEAR LINE THAT VISIT COULD CERTAINLY GO AHEAD, AND WAS WELCOME, AND ONLY REQUIREMENT WAS SOME SORT OF ALLIED "FIG LEAF," I.E. AN INVITATION BY THE THREE POWERS OR AT LEAST BY ONE. FRG REP (LUECKING) SAID KRAPF WOULD BE SEEING LUNS DURING AFTERNOON OF
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OCT. 15, THAT BONN SAW A DIFFERENCE BETWEEN LUNS AND THE

NATO AMBASSADORS, BUT IT WAS FRG POSITION TO FAVOR LUNS' GOING. TAKING UP ON THIS, AND ON PREVIOUS FRENCH NEGATIVISM REGARDING LUNS' PARTICIPATION IN TRIP (REF C), US REP SPECIFICALLY INDICATED THAT THERE WAS NO US OBJECTION TO LUNS' PARTICIPATION. LUNS WOULD BE COVERED BY ALLIED "FIG LEAF" AND THERE WAS NO REASON TO SEPARATE HIM OUT. US REP ALSO REPEATED US TRADITIONAL POSITION THAT IT IN ALLIED/FRG INTEREST TO MAINTAIN NATO INTEREST IN BERLIN. THE FRENCH REP (BOISSIEU) CLOSED DISCUSSION BY REMARKING THAT WE SHOULD BE CAREFUL TO INSURE THAT A LUNS BERLIN TRIP WOULD NOT BE REGARDED AS REACTION TO USSR-GDR TREATY, AND PERHAPS A LATER VISIT WOULD BE PREFERABLE.

3. COMMENT: AS INFERRED BY THE ABOVE, WE DETECT A FRENCH HAND IN THIS MATTER. WE WOULD NOT BE SURPRISED IF THE FRENCH DID NOT WEIGH IN BILATERALLY WITH THE FRG. ON BASIS OF ALLIED "FIG LEAF," WE CONTINUE TO SEE NO REASON WHY LUNS SHOULD NOT PARTICIPATE IN OCTOBER TRIP.
HILLENBRAND

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